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Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 04664 130801Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05
TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 L-03
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 INT-05 /087 W
----------117570 132235Z /41
R 130736Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9885
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 4664

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EIND, CH
SUBJECT: CHANGES AT WUHAN STEEL MILL

1 USLO OFFICER WHO VISITED WUHAN STEEL MILL IN SEPTEMBER, 1977 OBSERVED THAT OPERATIONS HAD SIGNFICANTLY IMPROVED WHEN HE REVISITED THE PLANT ON APRIL 10. IN THE NUMBER ONE STEEL MILL THE 250 TON OPEN HEARTH FURNACE THAT HAD COLLAPSED AND BEEN UNDER REPAIR LAST YEAR WAS FULLY RE-PAIRED AND PRODUCING STEEL. WHEN VISITED, THE STEEL MILL APPEARED TO HAVE IN USE BOTH 250 TON OPEN HEARTH FURNACES AND PERHAPS 4 OR 5 OUR OF SIX 500 TON FURNACES. THE APPEAR-ANCE OF THE STEEL MILL HAD VASTLY IMPROVED. FEW WORKERS WERE IDLE AND OPERATIONS APPEARED TO BE ORDERLY.

2. THE NUMBER ONE AND NUMBER FOUR BLAST FURNACES WERE CON-FIRMED TO BE IN OPERATION. THE OTHER TWO BF'S WERE PROABLY WORKING BUT THIS COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED.

3. A MILL OFFICIAL STATED THAT THE NEW STEEL MILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION WILL POSSESS THREE 50 TON CONVERTERS AND WILL HAVE A 1.5 MILLION TON ANNUAL CAPACITY, WHICH
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IS LESS THAN THE 2.5 MILLION ON CAPACITY OF THE PRESENT MILL. THIS MILL SHOULD BEGIN SOME LIMITED PRODUCTION THIS YEAR, HE SAID. NO NEW BLAST FURNACES WILL BE BUILT FOR THE NEW PLANT. THE FOUR EXISTING BF'S WILL "TAP THEIR POTENTIAL" TO PRODUCE PIG IRON FOR THE NEW PLANT.
ACRM THE OFFICIAL STATED THAT WUHAN HAD FULFILLED ITS 1977 PRODUCTION PLAN AND THAT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1978 IT

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HAD FULFILLED 25 PERCENT OF THE ANNUAL PLAN, AN HISTORIC
ACHIEVEMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, STEELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 65
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Reference: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2984105
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANGES AT WUHAN STEEL MILL 1 USLO OFFICER WHO VISITED WUHAN STEEL MILL IN SEPTEMBER, 1977 OBSERVED THAT OPERATIONS HAD SIGNF
TAGS: EIND, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
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